

# General Assembly

## Committee Description



### READ TO DISCOVER:

1. Who is included in the General Assembly?
2. What is the General Assembly responsible for?

Established in 1945, the General Assembly is responsible for all major debates and is the main forum for the United Nations because it includes all 192 members. Issues that have been discussed in the General Assembly include human rights, the environment, global security and much more. Most recently the General Assembly has worked on strengthening emergency humanitarian assistance and crime prevention. In addition the General Assembly promotes international peace and wellness.



The view from outside the General Assembly building.

Source: Dan McKay<sup>1</sup>

General Assembly resolutions are not binding they cannot be enforced. However, the General Assembly makes suggestions how on to solve the issues. The General Assembly cannot require that an individual country take a particular action to the solution, but pressure from other UN members may convince countries to consider the solution when they are reluctant.

The General Assembly has other sub-committees that deal with various issues such as, international security, economic issues, social and humanitarian issues and international law. The General Assembly also elects non-permanent members to the Security Council and the Secretary General. The General Assembly works closely with the Security Council. The ultimate goal of the General Assembly is to promote peaceful and safe international relations.

### Sub Committees

- Disarmament and International Security Committee (DISEC)
- Economic and Financial Committee
- Social, Humanitarian and Cultural Committee (SOCHUM)
- Special Political and Decolonization Committee
- Administrative and Budgetary Committee
- Legal Committee

<sup>1</sup> Photo Credit: [http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:UN\\_General\\_Assembly\\_building.jpg](http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:UN_General_Assembly_building.jpg)